

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in full response to the Office Action dated November 30, 2005. The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the conscientious review of this patent application and the indication that a number of other claims contain allowable subject matter.

In particular, the Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 6, and 26-28 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Certain other claims, however, stand rejected. Specifically, claims 1-5, 7-10, 19, and 29-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,745,614 issued to Tsang; claims 11-15, 20-25, and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsang in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,964,105 issued to Gideon; and, claims 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsang in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,216,757 issued to Dorkin.

Without addressing the substantive issues of the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the Applicant has amended several claims and cancelled others in order to place all of the claims which remain pending in the present application in condition for immediate allowance, such action being respectfully requested.

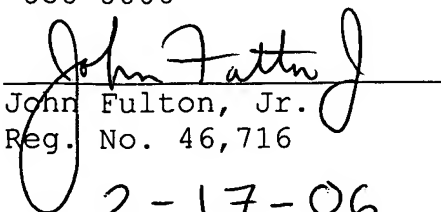
Specifically, the Applicant has rewritten dependent claim 6 in independent form including all of the subject matter of underlying independent base claim 1 and intervening dependent claim 3, and claim 6, as amended herein, is now believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. Additionally, dependent claim 26 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the subject matter of underlying independent base claim 19, and intervening dependent claims 25 and 20, and is also believed to be in condition for immediate allowance, and, as such, dependent claims 27 and 28, which depend from amended independent claim 26 are now also believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. As a final matter, the Applicant has cancelled claims 1-5, 7-25, and 29-36 via the present Amendment.

For the reasons set forth above, the Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for immediate allowance, and such action is now respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MALLOY & MALLOY, P.A.  
Attorneys for Applicant  
2800 S.W. Third Avenue  
Historic Coral Way  
Miami, Florida 33129  
(305) 858-8000

By:

  
John Fulton, Jr.  
Reg. No. 46,716

Date:

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